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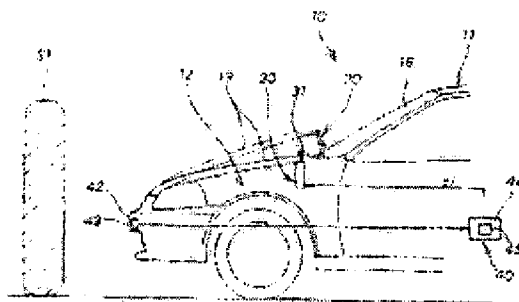
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Abstract not available for DE10136537

Abstract of corresponding document: **US2002043417**

An obstruction inference apparatus for a vehicle, for inferring the type of an obstruction which the vehicle has hit, which comprises a member deformable in correspondence with an impact force with which the vehicle hits the obstruction, deformation rate detecting means for detecting the deformation rate of this deformable member, timer starting means for starting a timer when the deformation rate detected by the deformation rate detecting means reaches a preset first reference rate in the course of increasing, second reference rate generating means for setting as a second reference rate a value equivalent to a value obtained by multiplying the maximum deformation rate by a preset constant, elapsed time calculating means for stopping the timer when the deformation rate reaches the second reference rate and obtaining the elapsed time from the timer being started to the timer being stopped, and inference signal generating means for, when the elapsed time is within a preset time range, inferring that the obstruction is a specified obstruction.



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